

Amendment
Besse et al
Serial No. 10/602,499

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IN THE DRAWING

Corrected figures 1-10 are enclosed in accordance with the Examiner's requirement.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to include an element which permits periodic washing of the internal surfaces and seals of the housing for the reciprocating piston.

Claims 1-16 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, for the following language usages:

1. Claim 1, line 7, there is no antecedent basis for "said ceramic rotor".
2. Claim 2, recites "are formed" and therefore it is unclear whether a product by process limitation is intended.
3. In claims 5 and 6, there are plural antecedents for "said housing".
4. In claim 13, there is no reference frame for "self-aligning".

The claims have been amended to include language which meets these rejection grounds. Accordingly, this ground of rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sanz et al. in view of Makino et al. As set forth above, Claim 1 has been amended to include means for periodically washing the interior volume of the first housing and the fluid paths in the rotor and stator. Such means was the subject of original claims 14 and 15 which have been canceled. Claims 14 and 15 were rejected over Sanz et al. in view of Makino et al and further in view of Boutet (French Patent 2639066). It is the Examiner's position that Boutet discloses a pump having means for washing the interior of the housing to remove particles.

Neither Sanz et al nor Makino et al. discloses or suggests a means for washing the interior of a pump. Boutet discloses a means for washing only a portion of the interior of a pump. As shown in Figs. 2 and 3, a reciprocating

piston 6 is provided with seals 8 and 9 mounted thereon so that the seals reciprocate with the piston. Thus, in the Boutet apparatus, only the interior housing surface between the movement path of the seals 8 and 9 are washed. If Boutet utilized a rotor and a stator, any fluid paths thereon would not be washed. In addition, since the seals 8 and 9 of Boutet move, they are subject to the chattering problem described at page 1, last three lines of applicant's specification. Thus, these references do not suggest applicant's claimed invention. Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection based on Sanz et al and Makino et al. and Boutet should be withdrawn.

Claims 3 and 4 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Sanz et al. in view of Makino et al. and further in view of Fletcher et al. Fletcher et al. does not suggest a means for periodically washing the interior of a pump. Accordingly, this ground of rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 7, 8, 11 and 12 have been rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) over Sanz et al in view of Makino et al. and further in view of Strohmeier et al. Strohmeier et al. does not suggest a means for periodically washing the interior of a pump. Accordingly, this ground of rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 9 and 10 have been rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) over Sanz et al. in view of Makino et al. and Fletcher et al. and further in view of Strohmeier et al. Fletcher et al and Strohmeier et al do not suggest a means for periodically washing the interior of a pump. Accordingly, this ground of rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 13 and 16/13 have been rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) over Sanz et al. in view of Makino et al. and further in view of Woodworth et al. Woodworth et al. does not suggest a means for periodically washing the interior of a pump. Accordingly, this ground of rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 14 has been canceled.

Claim 15 has been canceled.


Claim 16 and 16/2 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Sanz et al. in view of Makino et al. and further in view of Gerber et al. Gerber et al. does not suggest a means for periodically washing the interior of a pump. Accordingly, this ground of rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 16/14 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Sanz et al. in view of Makino et al. and Boutet and further in view of Gerber. Gerber does not suggest a means for periodically washing the interior of a pump. As set forth above, none of these references either alone or together suggests applicants' claimed invention. Accordingly, this ground of rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 16/15 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Sanz et al. in view of Makino et al., Woodworth and Boutet and further in view of Gerber et al. As set forth above, none of these references either alone or together suggests applicants' claimed invention. Accordingly, this ground of rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is submitted that applicant's claims define patentable subject matter and an early Notice of Allowance to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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